



Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

Sanctuary Office Report



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A REPORT FOR THE SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

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ABOUT THE SANCTUARY

Designated in 1992, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS or Sanctuary) is a federally protected marine area offshore of California's central coast. Stretching from Marin to Cambria, the MBNMS encompasses a shoreline of 276 miles and 5,322 square nautical miles of ocean.

Supporting one of the world's most diverse marine ecosystems, it is home to numerous mammals, seabirds, fishes, invertebrates and plants in a remarkably productive coastal environment. The MBNMS was established for the purpose of resource protection, research, education and public use of this national treasure.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA) AND NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY PROGRAM (NMSP) NEWS

Preserve America Initiative

NOAA's efforts for the Preserve America Initiative received recognition by the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation (ACHP). On September 9, 2004, the ACHP announced the launching of NOAA's Preserve America website on their own homepage, www.achp.gov. The NOAA website has also been added as a reference in the Information Clearinghouse section of the central Preserve America website, www.preserveamerica.gov. On Friday, September 17, 2004, NOAA's efforts were further recognized at the Preserve America Steering Committee Meeting. Dan Basta presented a short presentation on NOAA's efforts to fulfill the Preserve America E.O. 13287, which directs Federal agencies to improve their management of historic properties and to foster heritage tourism in partnership with local communities. Through

creative and innovative ideas and robust participation, NOAA is looking to further promote its heritage resources – from historic maps and charts to buildings and shipwrecks – and make them accessible to the public through a myriad of programs and partnerships.

Telepresence Project

The program is working with Internet 2 on a demonstration of the Telepresence Project, a cutting-edge initiative that uses advanced networking to bring real-time, interactive underwater exploration into educational and research settings. On October 13, 2004, Dr. Spinrad and key members of congress were invited to the Internet2 Office in Washington, D.C. for a 30-minute narrated demonstration of a diver 60 feet below the surface of Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The diver took questions as the audience watched the diver give an underwater "tour" of the sanctuary's kelp forest and bottom habitat. At the same time, a remotely operated vehicle followed the diver as he filmed the dive. The high quality video and real-time interaction promises to extend the reach of marine education and outreach programming to areas far from the coast.

"2004 Hunt for the Alligator"

From August 20-29, NOAA's NMSP and the U.S. Navy's Office of Naval Research (ONR) conducted the "2004 Hunt for the *Alligator*," an expedition to search for the wreck of the U.S. Navy's first submarine, the *Alligator*, which was lost during a storm in 1863. The ONR-funded mission was conducted out of Ocracoke Island, N.C. on the Navy's "Afloat Lab" YP-679. The Hunt included an ambitious schedule of scientific and educational activities, and presented a unique opportunity for inspiring people to learn more about oceans, sciences, technology, and history. The science team included researchers and graduate students from NOAA, East Carolina University, and the University of Rhode Island, a midshipman and a professor from the Naval Academy, and a teacher and senior student from Stone Ridge School in Bethesda, MD. Instruments used included a side-scan sonar, a magnetometer, and a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV). The team managed to survey a larger search area than the initially planned 50-square nautical miles, despite having to cancel the last two days of surveys because of inclement weather. The research team will now focus on analyzing the data gathered during the survey. The expedition was widely covered by the news media. Articles appeared in the Washington Post, Baltimore Sun, Richmond Times-Dispatch, Virginian-Pilot, Raleigh News and Observer, Chicago Tribune, Charleston Post and Courier, and numerous other outlets. Radio stations nationwide also interviewed the expedition team.

NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY NEWS

Channel Islands NMS

September 11 marked an historic crossing by the Chumash Indian tribe to the sanctuary. Members of the Chumash Maritime Association paddled 18 nautical miles across open-ocean to Limuw (Santa Cruz Island) in a planked canoe called a tomol. The tomol named *Elye'wun*, was built in the traditional methods and funded by the sanctuary. This is the second such crossing in over 125 years; the first crossing to Anacapa Island then onto Limuw was completed just 3 days before the 9-11 events. The more experienced paddlers reached Limuw in less than 8 hours and allowed the next generation of teenage paddlers to participate in landing the tomol at Scorpion Anchorage. The sanctuary's R/V *Xantu* provided support during the crossing in collaboration with partners from the National Park Service and Santa Barbara Maritime Museum.

The sanctuary held its annual Shipwreck Reconnaissance Expedition. The expedition successfully completed the first phase of installing permanent datums (fixed reference points on an archaeological site from which measurements can be taken and from which future site location and surveys can be based) at the shipwreck sites of the *Winfield Scott* and *Aggi*. The expedition, in collaboration with the Channel Islands National Park and Coastal Maritime Archaeology Resources group, installed a total of eight datums over the course of the five-day mission. The program consists of installing permanently imbedded datums into the sea floor and/or rocks contiguous to selected shipwreck sites. Each datum will serve as a reference point for establishing Differential Global Position System positions. With a series of datum locations, accurate measurements can be established for recording the current positions of submerged artifacts. The datums will also be utilized for permanent camera positions for recording still and videotape documentation of major artifacts.

Cordell Bank NMS

The sanctuary celebrated its 15th anniversary with an event at the sanctuary office on October 2. More than 100 invited guests attended including representatives from Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey and Senator Barbara Boxer's office. Both presented the sanctuary with congressional certificates of recognition. Members of the original Cordell Expeditions dive team also attended and brought memorabilia from the early expeditions to Cordell Bank. Sanctuary advisory council members, the commanding officer from the Coast Guard's San Francisco Bay Marine Safety Office, the superintendent of Point Reyes National Seashore, associates from the research and education community and friends from the local community rounded out the attendance. Highlights included a presentation from Congresswoman Woolsey honoring Ed Ueber, the first sanctuary manager, a new sanctuary puppet show with a marine conservation message, an oil painting exhibit featuring all things marine and the new zooplankton exhibit now hanging in the Cordell Bank office.

Flower Garden Banks NMS

The sanctuary research team was invited to conduct ROV activities on board one of NASA's rocket booster recovery vessels for a period of 10 days, beginning October 25. The ship time was offered to the National Undersea Research Center (NURC), at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, who offered this resource to the sanctuary. The 176' NASA vessel *Liberty Star* was in the Gulf of Mexico and based operations out of Tampa, FL. NURC provided their Phantom S2 ROV and pilot at no cost. This opportunity allowed the sanctuary to continue the deepwater characterization surveys and collections at selected reefs and banks on the continental shelf of the Northwestern Gulf of Mexico - an ongoing effort that has resulted in more than 130 deepwater surveys and more than 160 biological samples. Surveys ranged from approximately 70-175 meters depth. The objective for this cruise was to continue groundtruthing the high-resolution bathymetry of the area for habitat characterization purposes and to collect and characterize the sponges of the region.

Gray's Reef NMS

October was a busy event month for sanctuary volunteers and staff, starting with the annual CoastFest celebration hosted by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. The event highlights an astounding array of coastal organizations in a fun, family-oriented environment with an emphasis on educational activities for children. This year, children visiting the booth were asked to take an ocean knowledge quiz for which they were awarded a loggerhead sea turtle poster. In mid-October, Skidaway Marine Science Campus (home of the Gray's Reef office) hosts an annual Open House for the public to learn from and explore Skidaway Institute of Oceanography, University of Georgia Marine Education Center and Aquarium, and Gray's Reef. Staff showed kids and adults how to operate a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) in the campus pool, and hosted an information table. There were many visitors to the booth and a constant stream of "potential ROV pilots" that

ranged in age from 2 to 94. October is also time for the annual Coastal Georgia Birding Festival. Pelagic birding talks and field trips highlighted the weekend.

Gulf of the Farallones NMS

The sanctuary is working with producer David Bradstreet of Actuality Productions on a documentary for the Discovery Channel program “Modern Marvels” on the disastrous 1984 wreck of the T/V *Puerto Rican*, which released at least 1.47 million gallons of oil into the sanctuary. The oil killed nearly 3,000 seabirds, plus krill, shrimp, rockfish and crab larvae. It is estimated that 8 million Dungeness crabs would have survived to adulthood if not for the spill. A mid-October airdate is projected.

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale NMS

On August 4, a Hawaiian monk seal gave birth to a pup at Poipu Beach Park. The pup is now over 4 weeks old. The mother and pup will remain together until approximately 6 weeks of age. The sanctuary O`ahu Programs Coordinator supported NOAA Fisheries with the Poipu Hawaiian monk seal protection effort by relieving the On-Scene Site Coordinator for five days. The Kauai Programs Coordinator has been supporting the effort since August 4 by coordinating volunteers and by acting as the Assistant On-Scene Site Coordinator when necessary. This effort is focused on the safety of the public as well as the monk seal mom and pup. The Hawaiian monk seal is the most endangered pinniped in the United States, second only in the world to the Mediterranean monk seal, which numbers only a few hundred. The current population is estimated at 1300 individuals. Approximately 1200 of the monk seals call the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands home while less than 100 are found in the main Hawaiian Islands.

Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve

Artifacts indicating the remains of an early 19th-century whaling ship were discovered by NOAA divers amid the coral reefs off Pearl and Hermes Atoll in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. The discovery is highly significant, as they likely signal the remains of one or both British whalers, the *Pearl* and the *Hermes*, documented as lost in that area. The *Pearl* struck the reef first on the night of April 24, 1822. The *Hermes* rushed to help, but met the same fate. All crewmembers survived and made it ashore to a nearby island, from which they were later rescued. Very little else is known about the event. The wrecks have remained unseen for 182 years. Hawaiians often enlisted as crew on board the Pacific whaling fleet. Found artifacts include: two large iron anchors, four large trypots (cauldrons used to process the oil on deck), bricks from the tryworks structure for the trypots, gaffs and whalecraft used in hunting and processing whales, pintles or bronze hardware attached to the rudder, copper fasteners/spikes, and copper sheathing which lined the lower hull. In addition, the surrounding fore reef appears to contain sections of the ship itself. The area of wreck debris spans approximately 660 meters. The discovery by marine debris removal specialists surfaced as part of a cooperative NOAA effort. Staff for the National Marine Sanctuary Program provided the debris removal crew (specialists with the Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center (PISFC)/Coral Reef Ecosystem Division (CRED)) with background information on potential shipwreck sites and briefed the divers on how to identify and document artifacts encountered opportunistically during clean-up activities. There are no records for any other whaling losses at the atoll. The newly discovered whaling wreck site lies within State of Hawai'i waters and is protected from disturbance by federal and state preservation laws.

Thunder Bay NMS

The sanctuary/preserve signed a 20-year lease with Alpena Marc L.L.C. for the development of a new Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center and on October 26 broke ground for the facility. This center will be housed at the former Fletcher Paper Mill facility in Alpena, Michigan. NOAA has committed an initial \$2.5 million investment to renovate the historic 20,000 square-foot building. When completed, the facility will include exhibits specific to the maritime history of Thunder Bay, as well as the historic resources found within and around the sanctuary. Other areas of the center will include: an auditorium to view films and live footage from shipwrecks, an archaeological conservation laboratory, education resource room, research facilities, and administrative space. The sanctuary offices will reside in the new facility by Summer 2005.



MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY NEWS AND PROGRAM UPDATES



JOINT MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW

Staff continues to work on drafting the management plan (DMP) and draft environmental impact statement (DEIS). At the October 2004 Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting staff indicated that prior to the release of the DMP and Draft EIS, the National Marine Sanctuary Act directs the MBNMS to consult with a range of federal, state and local agencies as well as Congressional Committees. This is the same procedure that occurs with the original designation. These consultation letters were sent out on October 22, 2004 and are available on the JMPR website at <http://www.sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/jointplan/>. The Joint Management Plan Review will involve proposed modifications to the designation documents of each of the three sanctuaries. The MBNMS will be proposing three modifications to:

- Allow for potential inclusion of the Davidson Seamount (boundary modification)
- Add authority to prohibit removal and take only below 3000 feet in the Davidson Seamount area (modification to the scope of regulation)
- To address introduced species (modification to the scope of regulation)
- Clarify that the authority to regulate possession of a Sanctuary resource applies wherever the resource is found.

Prior to release of the DMP/DEIS, the MBNMS will also need to draft the regulations that accompany the Sanctuary Advisory Council recommendations in the management plan. Section 304 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act requires the program to provide the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) the opportunity to prepare draft regulations for fishing. During the November meeting of the PFMC, MBNMS staff provided presentations to the various subcommittees (Groundfish Advisory Panel, Enforcement, and Habitat) as recommended by PFMC staff and on November 5, provided a presentation to the PFMC. MBNMS discussed the request for a regulation to prohibit removal and harvest of any resource (including fish), below 3000 feet in Davidson Seamount area. Since no fishing occurs below 150 feet, this allows for all current fishing and the potential for future midwater trawling if it was to ever occur. It would however, prevent potential future trawling near the top of the seamount (4,100 feet below surface). Although we have not received a formal response from the PFMC, we understand that they chose not to take action regarding the 304(a)(5) request to draft fishing regulations. The PFMC directed their staff to request an extension of time for their consultation regarding changes to the Designation Document and additional information to be able to comment on the changes.

If you have questions regarding management plan, please contact Sean Morton at (831) 647-4217 or sean.morton@noaa.gov. Also, please visit the management plan website at <http://sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/jointplan> for any changes or updates on the joint management plan review.

MANAGEMENT

On October 14, Brad Damitz and Rachel Saunders assisted with a California Coastal National Monument public meeting in Moss Landing. The purpose of the meeting was to elicit public comments on the recently released Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for the Bureau of Land Management's recently designated California National Monument. This was the first of a series of 7 public meetings to be held throughout California. For more information contact Brad Damitz at (831) 647-4252.

On October 18, Governor Schwarzenegger came to Point Lobos State Park to announce the release of the California Ocean Plan to the press and approximately 70 invited guests. Holly Price and Sean Morton attended and listened to presentations from the Governor, Leon Panetta, Clint Eastwood, and the State Secretaries for the Resources Agency and Cal EPA. Several speakers pointed to the MBNMS as a "model of ocean protection". There are many parallels between the goals in the State's Ocean Plan and the goals of the four sanctuaries in California which can strengthen partnerships with the state. For more information, contact Holly Price at (831) 647-4247.

On October 20, Holly Price and Sean Morton joined CINMS, GFNMS, and CBNMS staff on Wednesday for a meeting with California Secretary of Resources Mike Chrisman, California Ocean Program Manager Brian Baird, and Department of Fish and Game Deputy Director Sonke Mastru. The goal of the meeting was to provide a heads up regarding impending consultations and discuss coordination on common resource management issues. Staff provided a presentation on status of CINMS Marine Reserves and Joint Management Plan Review and highlighted certain initiatives that will require close coordination and partnership with California Resources Agency. For more information, contact Sean Morton at (831) 647-4217.

Holly Price, MBNMS Acting Superintendent, Dawn Hayes, Education & Outreach Coordinator and Rachel Saunders, Community & Public Relations Coordinator met with Congressman Sam Farr's DC Aides on 11/8 in Santa Cruz, along with the Santa Cruz's Mayor, one City Councilwoman and staff from the Redevelopment Agency. This is one stop on Matt Stout's trip to California to inform congressionals about the California Plan for Signage and Exhibitory. For more information, contact Rachel Saunders (831) 647-4237.

On November 9, 2004 MBNMS staff held an open house for MBNMS Advisory Council members and other guests on the CINMS's *R/V Shearwater* while she was docked in Monterey Harbor. The goal of the event was to show off the type of research boat the central coast sanctuaries will be getting in 2006. Brief presentations were given by Congressman Sam Farr, and by MBNMS Acting Superintendent Holly Price and Research Coordinator Andrew DeVogelaere. Also in attendance were Matt Stout & Ted Lillestolen from the National Marine Sanctuary Program, Debra Larson and Luke Nachbar, from NOAA's Office of Legislative Affairs, John Webb, from DOC's Budget Office and Troy Phillips & Jessica Maher, from Congressman Sam Farr's D.C. Office. The *Monterey Herald* and *Santa Cruz Sentinel* newspapers and *KSBW-TV* covered the event and ran brief stories. For more information, contact Rachel Saunders at (831) 647-4237.

On November 9, 2004 MBNMS Acting Superintendent Holly Price and MBNMS program coordinators gave a briefing on the MBNMS to Matt Stout & Ted Lillestolen (National Marine Sanctuary Program), Debra Larson and Luke Nachbar (NOAA's Office of Legislative Affairs), John Webb (DOC Budget Office) and Troy Phillips & Jessica Maher (Congressman Sam Farr's D.C. Office). For more information, contact Holly Price at (831) 647-4247.

On November 8th, Karen Grimmer participated in a phone conference with US Coast Guard reps to initiate planning for the construction of a new 100ft floating dock. The state-of-the-art dock, ramp and entry will provide a permanent and secure slip for the new 65ft Monterey vessel and the existing 31ft Sharkcat. USCG will oversee the construction as the NOAA dock is based on their newly built floating dock. An MOA is currently under development and will detail the requirements, needs and conditions for the project. For more information, contact Karen Grimmer at (831) 647-4253.

RESEARCH AND MONITORING

On September 20th, Andrew DeVogelaere served on the annual evaluation board for the NOAA funded California's ocean observing program, "Center for Integrated Coastal Observation, Research and Education (CICORE)." This program is developing statewide observations using hyperspectral surveys, nearshore water sampling, and habitat mapping. For more information, contact Andrew DeVogelaere at (831) 647-4213.

Becky Stamski has joined the Sanctuary Research Team as a California SeaGrant Fellow for the next 9 months. Becky recently earned a Master of Science Degree in geology from the University of California at Santa Cruz. She will be working on coastal geology issues related to the draft Management Plan Action Plans. For more information, contact Andrew DeVogelaere at (831) 647-4213.

Kerry Irish has joined the SIMoN team to help develop a process to assess the health of MBNMS habitats. This will result in a report that is presented to the public at the Sanctuary Currents symposium on March 12th, and is a collaboration with the Monterey Bay Aquarium. For more information, contact Andrew DeVogelaere at (831) 647-4213.

Andrew DeVogelaere and Erica Burton submitted a grant proposal to NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration for FY05 entitled, "Deep water corals of the Davidson Seamount - habitat suitability, taxonomy, age and growth." The goals are to investigate the processes that generate coral distribution patterns; and to collect corals for taxonomic studies, age and growth studies, and genetic diversity studies. In addition, images will be collected for outreach exhibits and for an upcoming television series co-produced by the BBC and Discovery Channel. The MBNMS is partnering with the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, Monterey Bay Aquarium, Moss Landing Marine Labs, and BBC. For more information, contact Andrew DeVogelaere at 831-647-4213.

On Wednesday, September 22nd, Research Coordinator Andrew DeVogelaere gave a lecture presentation, "Davidson Seamount: A Natural Wonder In Your Backyard," in Cambria. Davidson Seamount, the largest seamount on California waters, is located

approximately 75 miles southwest of Monterey and west of Cambria and San Simeon. For more information, contact Andrew DeVogelaere at (831) 647-4213 or email at Andrew.Devogelaere@noaa.gov

MBNMS Staff submitted a grant proposal to NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration for FY05 entitled, "2005 USS Macon Expedition - An archaeological reconnaissance and site documentation." The primary goal is to conduct a systematic ROV survey of the wreck site (USS Macon and Curtis F9C-2 Sparrowhawk aircraft) and create a comprehensive photo mosaic of the distribution of the site features for management and outreach. The MBNMS is partnering with the National Marine Sanctuary Program, Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, National Maritime Heritage Program, Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, California State Parks, Stanford University, Monterey Maritime Museum, Naval Historical Center, and Moffett Field Historical Society and Museum. For more information, contact Erica Burton at (831) 647-4246.



USGS and CDFG assisting the ROV camera sled into the water.

Photo credit: Heather Cauldwell

The CINMS *R/V Shearwater* was in the MBNMS on October 25–November 11. It provided a platform for a variety of projects including: jelly fish distribution and abundance characterization; benthic mapping and habitat characterization; deploying moorings for the west coast observatory program; and rockfish habitat assessments. This was a collaborative effort with the GFNMS, CBNMS, NOAA Fisheries, and Moss Landing Marine Labs, and included three days of public "open house" activities. For more information, contact Jean de Marignac at (831) 647-4214.

MBNMS/GFNMS/NODC staff jointly submitted a proposal to the Climate Database Modernization Program, "California coastal marine ecosystem surveys – slide imaging and archiving." This effort would digitize information on beachcast organisms and kelp canopies to make them more available for analyses and presentation through the web. For more information, contact Andrew DeVogelaere at (831) 647-4213.

On October 28, Andrew DeVogelaere gave a presentation at the Monterey Institute for International Studies on the Sanctuary Management Plan, and the links between sanctuary science with policy. This lecture was part of a series to an environmental science course. For more information, contact Andrew DeVogelaere at (831) 647-4213.

SIMoN

On September 13th, the Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network's staff hosted a meeting to plan a multi-agency update for the atlas of the Sensitivity of Coastal Environments and Wildlife to spilled oil for Central California. Funds and expertise

from the sanctuary and the Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response will be combined in this effort. NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration will advise and produce a digital version of the atlas. For more information, contact Jean DeMarignac, SIMoN Scientist, at (831) 647-4214.

On September 15th, SIMoN staff and the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation submitted a proposal to NOAA's Community-based Habitat Restoration Project Grants (CRP) program. Building on the existing volunteer effort to remove the invasive Asian kelp *Undaria pinnatifida* from Monterey Harbor, MBSF requested \$52,624 from CRP and provided (with partners from the City of Monterey and Harbormaster's office) \$50,528 in match. If funded, the project will begin in March 2005, last two years, involve up to 100 volunteers (89 have volunteered in the past 20 months), and hire a part-time project coordinator to oversee the program. For more information, contact Steve Lonhart, SIMoN Scientist, (831) 647-4222.

On September 24th, the SIMoN Science Committee met to discuss appropriate links with regional ocean observatory efforts, status of existing contracts, future funding of a water quality monitoring project, and membership changes. For more information, contact Andrew DeVogelaere, Research Coordinator, at (831) 647-4213.

On September 27th and 28th, Steve Lonhart, SIMoN Scientist, Chad King, SIMoN Data Analyst, and Chris Coburn, Water Quality Protection Program Director, attended the third meeting of the Central Coast Management Initiative (CCMI) group. CCMI was convened to develop conservation strategies that integrate across the land-sea interface. The group analyzed the suitability of co-locating terrestrial and marine reserves, and the impact that water quality has on the marine environment. For more information, contact Steve Lonhart at (831) 647-4222.

On October 13 Josh Pederson gave a presentation on the SIMoN program to the Bay Area Underwater Explorers (BAUE) dive club in Mountain View. BAUE divers have an on-going mapping project at Pt. Lobos Ecological Reserve in Carmel and have expressed interest in sharing information, underwater video, and images with SIMoN. For more information contact Josh Pederson, Outreach Specialist, at (831) 647-4260.

On October 7th, SIMoN staff was informed that the National Sea Grant review panel has recommended our preproposal, "Undaria pinnatifida in Monterey Bay: evaluating control methods, monitoring spread, and assessing impacts," for further consideration at the full proposal stage. The National Sea Grant Office recently convened review panels for the AIS Research and Outreach preliminary proposals. Preliminary proposals with significant research and outreach components were reviewed by both the Research Panel and the Outreach Panel. Overall, there were 135 AIS Research preliminary proposals (requesting a total of \$22 million) and 40 AIS Outreach preliminary proposals (requesting \$8 million). The full proposal is due at the California Sea Grant Office by 4pm on November 16, 2004. For more information, contact Steve Lonhart, SIMoN Scientist, at (831) 647-4222.

From October 4-6th, SIMoN staff collaborated with scientific divers from PISCO (Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans) to inventory marine resources along the Big Sur coast. Subtidal surveys were conducted as part of an on-going project funded by the Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP). CIAP funds are being used to collect biological, physical, and geological data from both inter- and subtidal habitats that may be affected by the California Department of Transportation (CalTRANS) Coast Highway Management Plan that covers 70 miles of Highway 1 along the central coast of California. Divers made 9 dives at sites ranging from Malpas Creek to just south of Gorda. For more information, contact Steve Lonhart, SIMoN Scientist, at (831) 647-4222.

Josh Pederson recently gave a presentation to the central and northern California regional association of ocean observing systems (CeNCOOS) regarding web and database development. SIMoN has proposed to develop a web-based system for CeNCOOS to manage and display information on regional observing programs, and the great interest was demonstrated at the meeting and in subsequent discussions. For more information contact Josh Pederson, Outreach Specialist, at (831) 647-4260.

SIMoN staff and 12 student volunteers from Santa Catalina High School assisted three divers in manually removing the invasive Asian kelp *Undaria pinnatifida* from Monterey Harbor. Students and their marine biology teacher worked from 9 AM until 2 PM, measuring and recording the reproductive status of >1000 plants removed by divers. Their efforts are part of an on-going project to understand the dynamics of *Undaria* in the harbor led by SIMoN staff and in collaboration with the City of Monterey and the Harbormaster's office. For more information, contact Steve Lonhart, SIMoN Scientist, at (831) 647-4222.

On September 27th and 28th, SIMoN staff and Chris Coburn, Director of the Water Quality Protection Program, attended the third in a series of workshops sponsored by the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS), and funded by the Resources Legacy Fund Foundations California Coastal and Marine Initiative (CCMI) and the David and Lucille Packard Foundation. The meeting was held at UC Santa Cruz's Long Marine Laboratory and included researchers and managers from terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems. This is part of an effort to better integrate conservation practices across the land-sea interface along the central coast of California. For more information, please contact Steve Lonhart, SIMoN Scientist, at (831) 647-4222.

SIMoN staff reviewed of a draft report entitled "Status, Environmental Threats, and Policy Considerations for Invasive Seaweeds for the Pacific Coast of North America." The draft report was submitted to the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC), which is an international organization created by Canada, Mexico and the United States under the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (NAAEC). Expertise from SIMoN staff was sought due to sanctuary involvement with the management of invasive Asian kelp *Undaria pinnatifida* in Monterey Harbor. *Undaria* is one of the focal species in the draft report. For more information contact Steve Lonhart, SIMoN scientist, at (831) 647-4222.

On October 20th, SIMoN staff gave a presentation at the annual meeting of the California Harbor Masters and Port Captains Association. During a session that included training seminars and workshops, staff participated in the session entitled "Managing Invasive Species in Your Marina." The presentation focused on the Asian kelp, *Undaria pinnatifida*, and how sanctuary staff works with the City of Monterey and the Monterey Harbor Master's Office to manage and monitor the recently introduced seaweed. For more information, please contact Steve Lonhart, SIMoN Scientist, at (831) 647-4222.

On October 25th, SIMoN staff participated in the final meeting of the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve Technical Advisory Committee at the San Mateo County Offices Building in Redwood City. Tenera, a consulting firm hired by the County of San Mateo, presented the results of a project designed to provide a quantitative description of species diversity and visitor use in the intertidal zone of the James V. Fitzgerald State Marine Reserve. Tenera described the historical status and trends of visitor use in the intertidal, and examined potential relationships between levels of visitor use in rocky intertidal habitats and potential visitor impacts (e.g., trampling, gathering, and

fishing). The Tenera report also provides management options for limiting visitor impacts while meeting the Fitzgerald Reserve's Master Plan objectives, provides a framework for a long-term monitoring plan to improve baseline data for future scientific research, and evaluates the match between the long-term goals and objectives of San Mateo County Parks and Recreation and resource protection goals of the Marine Life Protection Act. For more information, please contact Steve Lonhart, SIMoN Scientist, at (831) 647-4222.

Additional geology projects have been added to the SIMoN web site (<http://www.mbnms-simon.org/sections/geology/projects.php?sec=g>), including information on the geologic stability of the Big Sur coastline. This type of information is critical for the development of a coast highway management plan. For more information, contact Josh Pederson at (831) 647-4260.

RESOURCE PROTECTION

On September 21st, Steve Lonhart, Irina Kogan, Chad King and Lisa de Marignac continued work with Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans (PISCO) staff at UCSC to review geological GIS data layers for the Coast Highway Management Plan (CHMP). We will use these existing data to predict intertidal and subtidal substrate to assist in characterizing biological communities along the Big Sur coast. PISCO's work, as part of the CHMP, will aid MBNMS' decision-making during landslide events. For more information, contact Lisa de Marignac at (831) 647-4238.

The MBNMS submitted a comment letter regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Coast Hotel in Santa Cruz. The Sanctuary's comments focused on coastal armoring and water quality concerns. For more information, contact Brad Damitz at (831) 647-4252.

On September 28th Environmental Policy Specialist, Huff McGonigal participated in the first meeting of the Southern Sea Otter Recovery Plan Implementation Team. The group is being convened by the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service to provide guidance on implementing the strategies that are contained in the 2003 Sea Otter Recovery Plan. The Plan was drafted with the goal of removing the species from the "threatened" list under the Endangered Species Act. The Implementation Team is made up of environmental organizations, fishing and research interests, and agency representatives. For more information contact Huff McGonigal at (831) 647-4254

On September 30th, Huff McGonigal attended a stakeholder scoping meeting for the Monterey Bay Aquarium's new policy initiative "The Center for the Future of the Oceans". The meeting sought to bring together individuals involved in marine policy to provide input on the mission and directions of the new center. The participants reviewed and provided perspectives on the various issues the Center may focus on, and discussed mechanisms for achieving the Center's goals. For more information, contact Huff McGonigal at (831) 647-4254.

Deirdre Hall, Permit Coordinator, met with Irina Kogan, GFNMS, on October 26th to discuss events related to Caltrans disposal of rip-rap along the Pescadero Coast in 2003, under MBNMS Authorization 2003-001. This briefing was in preparation for an upcoming meeting with the Coastal Commission and Caltrans to discuss future needs at this site. For more information, contact Deirdre Hall at (831) 647-4207.

From November 1st-5th, Huff McGonigal attended the Pacific Fishery Management Council's Habitat Committee meeting in Portland and gave a round of presentations to other Council committees regarding the Sanctuary's initiative to protect Davidson Seamount. On Friday, November 5th, Holly Price presented this initiative and the associated process to the Council proper. This was a joint presentation with CBNMS and begins the Council's prescribed 120 day opportunity to prepare draft Sanctuary fishing regulations to meet the goals and objectives of the sanctuaries. For more information contact Huff McGonigal at (831) 647-4254.

On September 24th, 2004 the new Cruise Ship web page on the MBNMS web site was released. This effort is the first in revamping the Resource Protection section of the site. The next issues to be addressed will be Desalination, Coastal Armoring, Beach Closures, Dredging and Wildlife Disturbance. For more information, contact Heather Cauldwell at (831) 647-4201.

On September 27th, Brad Damitz met with Nick Papadakis and Jonathan Berkey from the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, to discuss the development of an integrated regional planning approach for desalination plants in the MBNMS, that is spelled out in the Sanctuary's Joint Management Plan Review Desalination Action Plan, as well as potential funding opportunities for the program. For more information, contact Brad Damitz at (831) 647-4252.

Water Quality

On September 21st, 22nd and 23rd, Bridget Hoover, Coordinator of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network, trained over 40 volunteers in Half Moon Bay, Santa Cruz and Monterey for the First Flush water quality monitoring event. A "dry run" monitoring event followed on Sunday, September 26th, when volunteers in 5 cities collected water samples to assess the concentration of nutrients, bacteria, metals, and turbidity during the dry season. Out of 23 storm drain outfalls, all but 5 had flowing water. Sanctuary staff participating in this event included Lisa Emanuelson and Erica Burton from MBNMS and Irina Kogan and Christy Walker from GFNMS. For more information, contact Bridget Hoover at (831) 883-9303.



A group of high school students testing during First Flush in Half Moon Bay.

Photo Credit: Bridget Hoover

On September 20th, Chris Coburn, Water Quality Protection Program Director, participated in a conference call with the California Coastal Commission and Regional Water Quality Control Board to prioritize the Central Coast Critical Coastal Areas (CCA). The CCA Program seeks to foster collaboration among local stakeholders and government agencies to identify and direct resources to coastal-zone watershed areas in critical need of protection from polluted nonpoint source runoff. For more information, contact Chris Coburn, at (831) 420-1670.

On September 21st, Katie Siegler, Agriculture Water Quality Coordinator, gave a presentation on the Sanctuary's Agriculture Action Plan to 20 farmers and vineyard operators from Monterey County. As part of UC Cooperative Extension's Farm Water Quality Planning Short Course, participants learn about water quality issues and develop water quality management plans for their properties. For more information, contact Katie Siegler at (831) 647-4219.

On Thursday, September 23rd, Chris Coburn, Water Quality Protection Program Coordinator, attended a meeting of the Fish Net 4C salmonid restoration group. The FishNet 4C program is a County-based salmonid protection and restoration program that brings together the six Central California Coastal Counties (4C) of Mendocino, Sonoma, Marin, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, and Monterey, and Chris attended the meeting to discuss collaboration between the WQPP and Fish Net 4C. For more information contact Chris Coburn at (831) 420-1670.

On September 30th, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the Resources Legacy Fund Foundation, hosted the second in a series of meetings to discuss the coordination of water quality monitoring activities in the central coast region. Discussion centered on how to maximize existing efforts by filling in gaps in monitoring, and disseminating data to decision makers, among other topics. For more information, contact Bridget Hoover at (831) 883-9303.

On October 13, Brad Damitz and Bridget Hoover participated in the first General Chapter Meeting of the Monterey Chapter of Surfrider Foundation. Bridget gave a presentation about the MBNMS Water Quality Protection Program, volunteer water quality monitoring opportunities, and some local water quality related projects and concerns on the Monterey Peninsula. Brad gave a presentation about the potential impacts of coastal armoring projects, the status and background of local proposed seawall projects, as well as opportunities for the Chapter to get involved locally in commenting on projects. For more information, contact Brad Damitz at (831) 647-4252.

On October 17, approximately 70 volunteers mobilized to collect water samples of the first storm of the season from 23 storm drain outfalls in Half Moon Bay, Santa Cruz, Capitola, Seaside, Monterey, and Pacific Grove. This was the fifth annual First Flush monitoring event for the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network. Sanctuary staff participating in the event included Erica Burton, Lisa Emanuelson, and Bridget Hoover. For more information, contact Bridget Hoover at (831) 883-9303.

On November 1, 2004, Bridget Hoover gave a presentation about the sanctuary and Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network to 20 college students in the Earth Systems Science and Policy program at Cal State Monterey Bay. For more information, contact Bridget Hoover at (831) 883-9303.

On November 4, 2004, Bridget Hoover attended a workshop hosted by the Carmel River Watershed Conservancy in which details were provided from the recently completed Watershed Assessment Plan for the Carmel River. They are currently accepting public comment, after which a Carmel River Management Plan will be developed. For more information, contact Bridget Hoover at (831) 883-9303.

A detailed comment letter was provided to the Regional Water Quality Control Board on November 10th regarding the City of Salinas' plan for stormwater control. MBNMS comments were generally supportive of the plan that contained strategies such as construction site management, public education and participation, and illicit detection, among others. However, the MBNMS did question some of the plan's protocols identified in the monitoring program. The MBNMS anticipates a productive discussion with the City and the Regional Water Quality Control Board to work out unresolved issues or questions. For more information, contact Chris Coburn at (831) 420-1670.

On November 10th, the MBNMS issued letters of support for several water quality projects seeking funding under the State's Agricultural Water Quality Grants Program. These projects were developed to improve water quality, and sustain agricultural operations, and are driven in large part by the strategies contained in the MBNMS' Agricultural and Rural Lands Action Plan. For more information, contact Chris Coburn at (831) 420-1670.

Enforcement and Emergency Response

On September 22nd, Scott Kathey gave a presentation about the MBNMS, overflight restriction zones in the central California Sanctuaries, and aircraft disturbance issues to 20 pilots at Coast Guard Air Station San Francisco. The MBNMS has coordinated with the US Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct semi-annual presentations to air station pilots at San Francisco and Sacramento. For more information, contact Scott Kathey at (831) 647-4251.

On September 24th, Holly Price and Scott Kathey met with Jeff Augello and Paul Ortiz of NOAA GCEL to discuss MBNMS priorities for General Counsel support and development of the draft national penalty schedule. For more information, contact Scott Kathey at (831) 647-4251.

The MBNMS is investigating a September 19 report of a large container ship sighted within 3 miles of Point Sur, 12 miles inshore of the recommended IMO shipping lanes. MBNMS will request that the Coast Guard notify the operator of non-compliance with the recommended ship track in accordance with protocols established when the shipping lanes were created. For more information, contact Scott Kathey at (831) 647-4251.

On October 4, MBNMS Resource Protection staff met with senior managers of the San Luis Obispo State Parks District to discuss the Sanctuary Cooperative Enforcement Program. The meeting was very successful in clarifying administrative, operational, and reporting procedures for an effective partnership. The MBNMS funds a 1/2-time Ranger to conduct Sanctuary enforcement in the southern reach of the Sanctuary. For more information, contact Scott Kathey at (831) 647-4251.

On October 7, MBNMS Resource Protection staff and Sharon Shutler (GCNR) participated in a conference call with the responsible parties for the loss of 15 ISO intermodal cargo containers into the MBNMS from a ship last February. Discussions are ongoing regarding damage assessment, the feasibility of salvage, and restoration options. For more information, contact Scott Kathey at (831) 647-4251 or Sharon Shutler at (301) 713-1220.

Deirdre Hall, Permit Coordinator, Scott Kathey Enforcement Coordinator, Bob Yerena NOAA Enforcement, and Lisa Emanuelson Education Specialist, discussed overflight issues within the MBNMS with Jane Dolliver via conference call on November 12th. Ms. Dolliver is working under contract with the OCNMS to examine the similarities and differences between low-flying aircraft at the West Coast Sanctuaries. For more information, contact Deirdre Hall at (831) 647-4207.

Up to 1,000 gallons of raw sewage entered the MBNMS near Cambria on November 14th due to a pump failure within the Cambria Community Services district. NOAA OLE is investigating the spill. For more information, contact Bob Yerena at (831) 647-4203.

An unknown amount of raw sewage spilled into the MBNMS near Del Monte Beach in Monterey on November 12th. NOAA OLE is investigating the spill. For more information, contact Bob Yerena at (831) 647-4203.

MBNMS Enforcement personnel and cooperating enforcement agency personnel conducted patrols aboard the *R/V SHEARWATER* on November 4th & 5th to assess the vessel's suitability for enforcement operations. The team developed recommendations for modification of the proposed *R/V FULMAR* design to better accommodate enforcement operations as part of the vessel's multi-mission profile. For more information, contact Scott Kathey at (831) 647-4251.

On November 5th, MBNMS Enforcement encountered a southbound cargo vessel near Point Sur that was 11 miles inshore of the IMO recommended shipping lane. Upon notification of non-compliance, the vessel master moved the ship further offshore. The Coast Guard has been notified of the incident. The MBNMS has received increasing reports of vessels transiting outside of IMO recommended ship

tracks through the MBNMS and is coordinating with the Coast Guard to improve compliance. For more information, contact Scott Kathy at (831) 647-4251.

Conservation Working Group (CWG)

On September 21st, the MBNMS Conservation Working Group met in Moss Landing. Discussion topics included recent developments and actions regarding desalination, cruise ships, the Sanctuary's proposed krill harvesting ban, and Essential Fish Habitat. The group also discussed California's Marine Life Protection Act and how it may relate to the Sanctuary's Special Marine Protected Areas Working Group efforts. For more information, contact Huff McGonigal at (831) 647-4254.

On October 19th the Conservation Working Group met in Moss Landing. The group discussed potential speakers for the Sanctuary Currents Symposium and the potential recipients of the conservation award. A representative from the MPA Center gave a talk on the Center's recent initiatives including their Social Science research Strategy. For more information, contact Huff McGonigal (831) 647-4254.

EDUCATION, VOLUNTEER AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Education Staff met with the California State Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR) staff in the San Luis Obispo Coast District of State Parks for more planning regarding the joint CDPR/MBNMS Interpretive Facility located in San Simeon. The contracted designer will be taking the products of the past three meetings to create a preliminary design. The MOU is in developmental stages to outline the roles of each agency. The building will be inhabitable as MBNMS office space by the end of October, interpretive portion to open fall of '05. For more information, contact Michele Roest at (805) 927-2145.

Negotiations are underway for the architectural and interpretive firms selected to assist in the design phase of the MBNMS Exploration Center in Santa Cruz. The Architectural firm is being contracted through Booz Allen Hamilton, with the assistance of Richard Gardner and the Interpretive Firm is contracting through the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, with the assistance of Francis Gilbert, also a BAH contractor. These contracting efforts are following Brown Act guidelines and when completed, the firms will be announced publicly. For more information, contact Dawn Hayes at (831) 647-4256.

On September 29, Dawn Hayes, Michele Roest, Deirdre Hall and Lisa Emanuelson met with Columbine Culberg, coordinator of the NMSP's Ocean Etiquette program and Deborah Benham, a Ph.D researcher and representative for the Friends of the Sea Otter. The discussion focused around how MBNMS can work collaboratively with these partners to achieve better public education of wildlife disturbance issues in the marine environment. For more information, contact Michele Roest at (805) 927-2145.

On October 7th, Stacia Fletcher attended "Tapping into Tourism," a presentation by the Santa Cruz County Conference and Visitors Council (SCCVC). The SCCVC is very interested in the MBNMS Exploration Center to be located in downtown Santa Cruz. For more information, contact Stacia Fletcher at (831) 420-1630.

On October 14th, Stacia Fletcher attended a reception in honor of California Assemblymember John Laird and his involvement in the renovation of the O'Neill Sea Odyssey Education Center located at the Santa Cruz Harbor. For more information, contact Stacia Fletcher at (831) 420-1630.

On October 13th, MBNMS staff participated in a telepresence broadcast that linked staff at the Mystic Aquarium, MBNMS staff at Sea Studios in Monterey, NMSP staff at Headquarters and a diver in the Monterey Bay kelp forest. Large fiber optic cables were recently implemented within the city of Monterey and have allowed organizations, institutions and schools linked by the cable to utilize "Internet 2" technology for video and audio programs like this one. For more details contact Dawn Hayes at (831) 647-4256.

On October 27th, MBNMS staff met with BIOS, the interpretive firm for the MBNMS Exploration Center, to conduct the first of several interpretive planning workshops. For more information, contact Stacia Fletcher (831) 420-1630.

On November 8, 2004, MBNMS staff and representatives from the City of Santa Cruz met with Matt Stout & Ted Lillestolen (National Marine Sanctuary Program), Debra Larson and Luke Nachbar (NOAA's Office of Legislative Affairs), John Webb (DOC Budget Office) and Troy Phillips & Jessica Maher (Congressman Sam Farr's D.C. Office) to discuss planning for the new MBNMS Exploration Center. Representatives from the City of Santa Cruz included Mayor Scott Kennedy, City Council member Emily Reilly, Dick Wilson (City Manager) and city redevelopment director Ceil Cirillo and project coordinator Darrell Doan. MBNMS Acting Superintendent Holly Price and Education Coordinator Dawn Hayes provided an overview of the project. Also in attendance was Donna Blitzler, from U.C. Santa Cruz and MBNMS staff Stacia Fletcher and Rachel Saunders. For more information, contact Stacia Fletcher at (831) 420-1630.

LiMPETS

On October 18 & 19th Monterey Bay Aquarium and MBNMS hosted 9 teachers and program leaders in a LiMPETS Program Training. Participants were trained in the LiMPETS program and MBA curriculum and given materials for their use in students programs. For more information, contact Lisa Emanuelson at (831) 521-9512.

On October 21 & 22nd Lisa Emanuelson led 60 students from Monterey High Schools' MAOS Program through training and field collections for the LiMPETS-Sand Crab Program. As part of their BWET grant, the students are collecting sand crab information along Del Monte Beach in Monterey. For more information, contact Lisa Emanuelson at (831) 521-9512.

On October 25th, Lisa Emanuelson, Resource Issue Education Specialist, presented storm water/urban runoff and LiMPETS educational programs to 20 teachers from Santa Cruz County. For more information, contact Lisa Emanuelson at (831) 521-9512.

On October 28th, Lisa Emanuelson trained 50 students from Roosevelt School in Salinas in LiMPETS sand crab protocols as part of a BWET grant from Exploring New Horizons. For more information, contact Lisa Emanuelson at (831) 521-9512.

MERITO

During the week of September 20th, MERITO staff presented to 36 English language learners through Watsonville's Adult Education program. The presentations were followed by an interactive watershed model demonstration and a sign up period for the upcoming MERITO "Tidepool Day." Free passes to the Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Research Reserve were provided to all participants. For more information, contact Claudia Pineda at (831) 647-4212

On Sunday September 26th, MERITO celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month by participating in the Monterey Bay Aquarium's Dia de la Familia event. MERITO staff hosted an activity and information booth. The days events included a reading and book signing by acclaimed children's author Juan Felipe Herrera. Herrera is author of the sanctuary's new Spanish bilingual children's book, "Coralito's Bay." The event brought in over 4,000 community members. For more information on this event or "Coralito's Bay" contact Michelle Templeton at (831) 647-4211.

On September 21st, MERITO staff kicked off their Watershed Academy after school program for the 2004-2005 school year at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Monterey County Seaside Branch. Watershed Academy has now expanded from one pilot program in Watsonville to eleven programs throughout the Pajaro, Watsonville, Salinas and Seaside regions. This program provides hands-on, inquiry based watershed and ocean science experiences for 5th to 8th grade students that are predominately English language learners. For more information, contact Cristy Cassel at (831) 647-4215.

During the week of September 27th, MERITO staff presented to 77 English language learners through the Watsonville and Salinas Adult Education programs. The presentations were followed by an interactive watershed model demonstration and a sign up period for the upcoming MERITO "Tidepool Day". Free passes to the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve were provided to all participants. For more information, contact Claudia Pineda at (831) 647-4212.

On October 1st, MERITO Bilingual Outreach Specialist, Cristy Cassel, presented to 40 continuation high school students at the Soledad Continuation High School. Topics included information on careers in science and related fields and college opportunities. The presentation was followed by an interactive watershed model demonstration. For more information, contact Cristy Cassel at (831) 647-4215

On October 3rd, MERITO hosted a Kayak Day for California State University Monterey Bay's Recruitment in Science Education (RISE) program. Twenty-five students and parents from Salinas and Marina, participated in the Spanish bilingual tour focused on natural history and conservation of the Elkhorn Slough and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary waters. Participants were also provided with goodie bags and free passes to ESNERR following the paddle. All kayak and equipment rentals were donated to the RISE program by Monterey Bay Kayaks. For more information, contact Cristy Cassel at (831) 647-4215.

On October 5, MERITO staff presented to 25 English language learners through the Salinas Adult Education program. The presentation focused on sanctuary issues such as fishing, water quality and the Davidson Seamount and was followed by an interactive watershed model demonstration addressing urban runoff. Participants also had the opportunity to sign up for the upcoming MERITO "Tidepool Day" and were provided free passes to the Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Research Reserve. For more information, contact Claudia Pineda at (831) 647-4212.

On October 4, the MERITO team kicked off their Watershed Academy after school program for the 2004-2005 school year at Rolling Hills Middle School in Watsonville. This program provides hands-on, inquiry based watershed and ocean science experiences for 5th to 8th grade students that are predominately English language learners. For more information, contact Cristy Cassel at (831) 647-4215.

On October 8, MERITO Bilingual Outreach Specialist, Cristy Cassel, hosted fifteen 5th – 8th grade students enrolled in the MERITO after-school program (Watershed Academy) at the Boys & Girls Club. Activities included an introduction to the Elkhorn Slough by Kenton Parker, a Spanish bilingual slough scavenger hunt and a interpretive hike around the slough. For more information, contact Cristy Cassel at (831) 647-4215.



Community members from Santa Cruz to Salinas participate in the MERITO Tidepool Day on October 10th, 2004 to learn about Tidepool protection, wildlife viewing and water quality issues relating to urban runoff.

Photo credit: Cristy Cassel

middle school. Activities included a plankton tow at the Elkhorn Slough and microscope exploration of the collected specimens. For more information, contact Cristy Cassel at (831) 647-4215.

On the week of October 25, MERITO staff presented to 75 English language learners through the Salinas and Watsonville Adult Education program. The presentation focused on sanctuary issues such as fishing, water quality and the Davidson seamount and was followed by an interactive watershed model demonstration addressing urban runoff. Participants also had the opportunity to sign up for the upcoming MERITO "Slough Hike" and were provided free passes to the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve. For more information, contact Claudia Pineda at (831) 647-4212.

On October 28 & 29, MERITO Bilingual Outreach Specialist, Cristy Cassel, hosted fifty-two 5th – 8th grade students enrolled in the MERITO Watershed Academy after-school program from three schools in Salinas and Watsonville at two field locations (mudflats in Moss Landing and the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve), for Spanish bilingual interpretive hikes, scavenger hunts, crab monitoring, plankton tows and mudflat explorations. For more information, contact Cristy Cassel at (831) 647-4215.

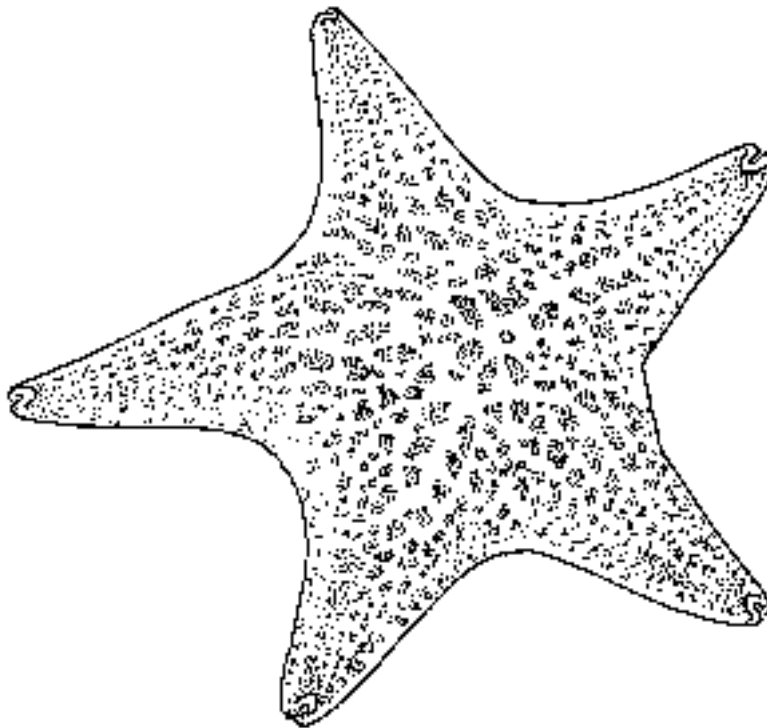
On November 2, MERITO staff presented to 24 English language learners through the Salinas Adult Education program. The presentation focused on sanctuary issues such as fishing, water quality and the Davidson Seamount and was followed by an interactive watershed model demonstration addressing urban runoff. Participants also had the opportunity to sign up for the upcoming MERITO "Slough Hike" and were provided free passes to the Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Research Reserve. For more information, contact Claudia Pineda at (831) 647-4212.

On November 7, MERITO staff hosted a community hike at the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve. Thirty-nine community members from Santa Cruz to Salinas, participated in the Spanish bilingual tour focused on natural history and conservation of the Elkhorn Slough and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary through water quality issues. Community members also joined in an invasive crab monitoring project. For more information, contact Cristy Cassel at (831) 647-4215.

On November 8th, MERITO staff and Lisa Emanuelson hosted twelve 6th–8th grade students enrolled in the MERITO Watershed Academy after-school program at Rolling Middle School in Watsonville in a LiMPETS/Sand Crab Monitoring Program at Sunset Beach. For more information, contact Cristy Cassel at (831) 647-4215.

During the week of November 8th, MERITO staff presented to 36 English language learners through the Salinas Adult Education program. The presentation focused on sanctuary issues such as fishing, water quality and the Davidson Seamount and was followed by an interactive watershed model demonstration addressing urban runoff. Participants were provided with free passes to the Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Research Reserve. For more information, contact Claudia Pineda at (831) 647-4212.

On November 13th, MERITO staff conducted demographic interviews at the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve. This is the third series of interviews being conducted every spring and fall to better understand the demographic visitorship of Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve. Interviews will be conducted every weekend in November. For more information, contact Claudia Pineda (831) 647-4212.



SIGNIFICANT NEWS COVERAGE

“Cybertrips: Find your way to Monterey” by Roger Patterson, USA Today, 9/21/04

“Grants aid Ocean Research; Farr presents \$480,000 check to schools, education groups”, by Virginia Hennessey, Monterey Herald, 9/21/04

“Programs that teach kids environmental stewardship awarded grants” by Brian Seals, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 9/21/04

“Web site offers things to do in Monterey” Associated Press, Desert Sun, 9/22/04

“Governor puts slew of environmental bills into law” by Paul Rogers, San Jose Mercury News, 9/24/04

“Sea Otter Awareness Week; Protection of California sea otters is an ongoing effort” by Virginia Hennessey, Monterey County Herald, 9/27/04

“Cruise ship cleanup; New law will protect coastal waters from waste” Opinion, Press-Telegram, 09/27/04

“Cruise ships face new ban on sewage” by Paul Rogers, San Jose Mercury News, 9/27/04

“Humans are loving otters to death, says researcher; Education on wildlife interaction key to health” by Jonathan Segal, Monterey County Herald, 9/29/04

“California get new curbs on pollution from cruise ships” Associated Press, USA Today, 9/30/04

“Drain cleanup vital help for Monterey Bay” Monterey County Herald Editorial, 11/9/04

“Marine biologist John Pearse to give Emeriti Faculty Lecture at UCSC on November 23” by Tim Stephens, UC Santa Cruz Current, 11/15/04

“Tight budgets also hit locals hard” by David Sneed, San Luis Obispo Tribune, 11/14/04

“Farmers learn about cutting-edge Central Coast Ag Waiver Program” by Amanda Schoenberg, The Register-Pajaronian, 11/14/04



WEB SITE (<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/>)

Recent Updates

Visit the web pages listed below to see recently updated sections of the MBNMS web site.

- Advisory Council Recruitment Application
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/2004/recruit04v4/112704covlet.html>
- Bill's detail in Italy
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/2004/recruit04v4/112704covlet.html>

*Please take a few moments to peruse the site. Your feedback is greatly appreciated.
Comments and suggestions can be sent to andrew.white@noaa.gov.*

FUN, OCEAN RELATED WEB SITES

NOS Data Explorer

<http://www.nos.noaa.gov/dataexplorer/welcome.html>

SIMON

www.mbnms-simon.org

National Marine Sanctuary Program

<http://www.sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/>

NOAA Publications Library

www.sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/library/library.html

National Estuarine Research Reserve System

<http://nerrs.noaa.gov/>

NOAA Ocean Explorer

<http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/>

National Data Buoy Center

<http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/rmd.shtml>

National Ocean Service

<http://www.nos.noaa.gov/>

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

<http://www.noaa.gov/>

Tides Online

<http://tidesonline.noaa.gov/>

Nautical Charts

<http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/charts.htm>

CALENDAR 2005

JANUARY	
Jan 14	RAP meeting, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., USGS office, Santa Cruz
Jan 18	CWG meeting, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moss Landing Harbor District meeting room
Jan 24	SEP meeting, 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m., MBNMS Conference Room

FEBRUARY	
Feb 4	Advisory Council Meeting at West Coast Santa Cruz Hotel, Santa Cruz
Feb 11	RAP meeting, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Location TBD
Feb 15	CWG meeting, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moss Landing Harbor District meeting room
Feb 26	National Ocean Science Bowl's (NOSB) Otter Bowl, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monterey Peninsula College
MARCH	
Mar 12	Sanctuary Currents 2005 Symposium at CSUMB
Mar 15	CWG meeting, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moss Landing Harbor District meeting room
Mar 21	SEP meeting, 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m., Location TBD
APRIL	
April 1	Advisory Council Meeting in Seaside
April 8	RAP meeting, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Location TBD
April 19	CWG meeting, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moss Landing Harbor District meeting room
MAY	
May 13	RAP meeting, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Location TBD
May 16	SEP meeting, 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m., Location TBD
May 17	CWG meeting, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moss Landing Harbor District meeting room
JUNE	
June 3	Advisory Council Meeting in Big Sur
June 21	CWG meeting, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moss Landing Harbor District meeting room
JULY	
July 8	RAP meeting, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Location TBD
July 18	SEP meeting, 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m., Location TBD
July 19	CWG meeting, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moss Landing Harbor District meeting room
AUGUST	
Aug 5	Advisory Council Meeting in Cambria
Aug 12	RAP meeting, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Location TBD
SEPTEMBER	
Sept 9	RAP meeting, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Location TBD
Sept 19	SEP meeting, 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m., Location TBD
Sept 20	CWG meeting, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moss Landing Harbor District meeting room
OCTOBER	
Oct 7	Advisory Council Meeting in Watsonville
Oct 18	CWG meeting, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moss Landing Harbor District meeting room
NOVEMBER	
Nov 18	RAP meeting, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Location TBD
Nov 15	CWG meeting, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moss Landing Harbor District meeting room
Nov 21	SEP meeting, 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m., Location TBD
DECEMBER	
Dec 2	Advisory Council Meeting in San Mateo County

****During 2005, the BTAP will be meeting on an as needed basis****

Learn More About Your Sanctuary

The Sanctuary Office Report is produced bi-monthly by the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary in conjunction with Sanctuary Advisory Council meetings. To learn more about the Sanctuary please visit our web site at: <http://www.montereybay.noaa.gov>.

To learn more about the Sanctuary Advisory Council please visit:
<http://www.montereybay.noaa.gov/intro/advisory.html>

The National Marine Sanctuary Program

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary is one of 13 marine sanctuaries in the National Marine Sanctuary Program. This program was established under the National Marine Sanctuaries Act of 1972 which authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to designate as national marine sanctuaries areas of the marine environment or Great Lakes with special national significance due to their conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, scientific, cultural, archeological, educational, or aesthetic qualities. Visit the NMSP web site at: <http://www.sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/>

Get involved and stay informed!

To learn how to get involved in the Sanctuary visit:
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/educate/internship.html>

Sign up for the MBNMS listserv to receive email notices about upcoming Sanctuary events, and public meetings of the Sanctuary Advisory Council and its Working Groups:
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/discussiongroups/disgroups.html>.

MBNMS Staff

William Douros – *Sanctuary Superintendent*
Holly Price – *Acting Superintendent and Resource Protection Coordinator*
Andrew DeVogelaere – Research Coordinator
Erica Burton – Research Assistant
Irina Kogan – Research Fellow
Steve Lonhart – SIMoN Scientist
Jean de Marignac – SIMoN Scientist
Chad King – SIMoN Data Analyst
Josh Pederson – SIMoN Outreach Specialist
Dawn Hayes – Education & Outreach Coordinator
Liz Love – Education Specialist
Lisa Emanuelson – Resource Issue Ed Specialist
Michelle Templeton – MERITO Program Manager
Cristy Cassel – Bilingual Education Specialist
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Michele Roest – Education & Outreach Specialist, San Simeon Office
Stacia Fletcher – Education & Outreach Specialist, Santa Cruz Office
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Deirdre Hall – Permit Coordinator
Brad Damitz – Environmental Policy Specialist
Huff McGonigal – Environmental Policy Specialist
Katie Siegler – Agriculture Water Quality Coordinator
Chris Coburn – Water Quality Protection Program Director
Donna Meyers – Regional Water Quality Coordinator
Bridget Hoover – Water Quality Network Coordinator
Lisa de Marignac – Environmental Policy Specialist
Karen Grimmer – Program Operations Coordinator
Sean Morton – Management Plan Coordinator
Paul Chetirkin – Assistant Management Plan Coordinator
Raymond Chisolm – Program Specialist
Rachel Saunders – Community & Public Relations Coordinator
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